



## Senate

General Assembly

January Session, 2001

**File No. 156**

Senate Bill No. 549

*Senate, April 9, 2001*

The Committee on Energy and Technology reported through SEN. PETERS of the 20th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the Senate, that the bill ought to pass.

### **AN ACT CONCERNING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A STATE-WIDE CABLE TELEVISION ADVISORY COUNCIL.**

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

- 1 (NEW) There shall be a state-wide community antenna advisory
- 2 council comprised of one member of each franchise area community
- 3 antenna advisory council established pursuant to section 16-331 of the
- 4 general statutes. Such state-wide council shall file a written report, no
- 5 later than February fifteenth of each year, with the Department of
- 6 Public Utility Control, the joint standing committee of the General
- 7 Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to public service
- 8 companies and all community antenna television companies
- 9 pertaining to those matters that affect community antenna television
- 10 consumers and companies on a state-wide basis, as determined by the
- 11 state-wide council. Such report shall also contain an accounting of the
- 12 annual revenues and expenditures of the state-wide council. Each
- 13 cable television company that possesses a certificate of public
- 14 convenience and necessity shall make a payment, on an annual basis,

15 of two hundred fifty dollars to the state-wide council. Members of the  
16 state-wide council shall serve without compensation. The Department  
17 of Public Utility Control shall designate a person to convene the first  
18 meeting of the state-wide council no later than December 15, 2001.

**ET**      *Joint Favorable*

The following fiscal impact statement and bill analysis are prepared for the benefit of members of the General Assembly, solely for the purpose of information, summarization, and explanation, and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either House thereof for any purpose:

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**OFA Fiscal Note**

**State Impact:** None

**Affected Agencies:** Department of Public Utility Control

**Municipal Impact:** None

**Explanation****State Impact:**

The bill establishes a statewide cable TV advisory council, and requires each of the 24 existing cable TV franchise areas to pay \$250 annually to the newly created statewide council. It is anticipated that \$6,000 ( $\$250 \times 24$ ) will be collected for this purpose, in a private account maintained by the cable TV companies, this is not a state fund. The bill requires the Department of Public Utility Control to designate a person to convene the first meeting of the council, which results in no state or municipal fiscal impact.

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**OLR Bill Analysis**

SB 549

***AN ACT CONCERNING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A STATE-WIDE  
CABLE TELEVISION ADVISORY COUNCIL.*****SUMMARY:**

This bill creates a statewide cable TV advisory council comprised of one member from each of the 24 existing franchise area advisory councils (presumably each franchise area council selects its own representative to the statewide council). Members of the statewide council serve without compensation. The Department of Public Utility Control (DPUC) must designate a person to convene the council's first meeting by December 15, 2001.

Each cable TV company must pay \$250 annually to the statewide council. The council must report to the DPUC, the Energy and Technology Committee, and each cable TV company by February 15 annually. The report must cover issues that affect cable TV customers and companies on a statewide basis, as determined by the council. The report must also cover the council's revenues and expenditures.

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2001

**COMMITTEE ACTION**

Energy and Technology Committee

Joint Favorable Report

Yea 13      Nay 0